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Pollard to Speak

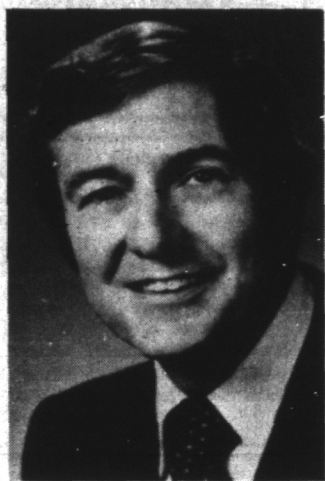
SBC Program Majors On Evangelizing The World

The Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) goal to evangelize the entire world by the close of the Twentieth Century will be the major focus when the SBC meets in Kansas City, June 14-16, at the Roe Bartle Convention Center.

Evangelist Billy Graham will close out a three-day emphasis featuring a combined effort of SBC agencies "to portray the unity and singleness of the objective of the denomination for this goal," said Wayne Dehoney of Louisville, Ky., chairman of the SBC Committee on Order of Business.

The committee is urging persons attending the 120th annual session of the 132-year-old SBC to remain to the end to get the cumulative effect of a three-day build-up to the closing challenge by Graham.

During that closing service, SBC missionaries will be commissioned and all Southern Baptists in every area



Pollard

of denominational life — lay and ordained — will be urged to commit themselves to the SBC goal, which will call for unprecedented mobilization of denominational resources.

Among other items of business, messengers will vote on a proposed \$63 million total national Cooperative Program unified budget. That includes \$55 million in basic operating

and capital funds needs of SBC agencies and another \$8 million in "bold advance" funds to finance unmet needs of the SBC's worldwide missions program beyond basic needs.

The agenda will center around "Let the Church Reach Out." Some 16,000 persons are expected to register as messengers. An all-time record of 18,637 registered last year in Norfolk.

Besides Graham, leading pastors will close afternoon and evening sessions with messages aimed at showing the centrality of the church to SBC efforts.

They are W. A. Criswell, former SBC president and pastor of First Church, Dallas, speaking on "Our Reason For Being"; Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, Miss., "The World God Loves"; William E. Hull, pastor of First Church, Shreveport, La., "The Gospel, the Power of God Unto Salvation"; Richard A. Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix, (Ariz.) Church, "By His Spirit"; and William Pinson, pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Tex., "Our World and the Gospel."

James L. Sullivan of Nashville, expected to be reelected to the customary second one-year term as SBC president, will deliver the president's address on Tuesday morning, June 14. William L. Self, pastor of Wieuca Road

Church, Atlanta, will preach the convention sermon during the Wednesday morning session.

The Home and Foreign Mission Boards and the Radio and Television Commission will combine on Tuesday evening, the six seminars and the Sunday School Board on Wednesday evening, and the Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission, also Wednesday evening.

"An innovation in programming this year will be the correlation of the agencies to show how they fit together

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INDIAN ON HORSEBACK overlooks Kansas City, host to the June 14-16 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. A large collection of American Indian art will be on exhibit during the convention week at Nelson Gallery. (BP) Photo

Dr. Cannata Is Released During Prayer Vigil

By Susan Cahen

Addis Ababa—Dr. Samuel R. J. Cannata Jr., Southern Baptist Medical missionary was released by Ethiopian government officials here April 19, following 16 days of confinement.

Dr. Cannata was released on a

guarantor, much like bail in the US judicial system, which is an assurance that he will not leave the country pending final disposition of the case. Government officials say they will still continue some investigation into the case.

Dr. Cannata phoned officials of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond to notify them of his release, but he was not able to tell them details of charges or reasons for detention. That word is not expected until government officials complete all aspects of their investigation and finally close the case.

Dr. Cannata has been in official custody since April 3, when he and his family were brought here from their home in Alemketema. The action followed a search of the Cannata home earlier that day.

Mrs. Cannata and their three children were held under house arrest overnight then released, but Dr. Cannata was detained for further questioning. After provincial officials had completed their report, it was forwarded to higher authorities.

House to house searches have been under way in Ethiopia in recent weeks, with newsmen being told that the searches were directed at the US Central Intelligence Agency and three Ethiopian groups which the government blames for a wave of assassinations and turmoil in the country.

None of Dr. Cannata's family was involved in the case beyond the house

arrest for one night. No other missionaries were ever implicated in the questioning nor did it seem directed at Southern Baptist mission work in general.

Mrs. Cannata was free to visit with and take food to her husband throughout the experience. And she related that he had been treated very nicely while being detained.

In his phone call to board headquarters, Dr. Cannata expressed thanks for all the prayerful concern in his behalf. And, when asked what had been going on in the case, he said, "God has been teaching me an awful lot about my life."

The missionaries who have gathered in Addis, he related, had set up a prayer vigil in his behalf during the last 24 hours of his incarceration. It was to end at 6 p.m. on April 19, the day they had been alerted an official decision in the case might be forthcoming. One minute before the vigil was to end, Dr. Cannata walked into the mission compound.

Within the past year, Cannata and his family have moved into the town of Alem Ketema in the Meharbete District at the invitation of the local governor general. Because of heavy rains and flooding in the area, the Cannatas have lived in their new home only for short periods.

However, future projections call for the establishment of new medical work in the district while he continues to visit established work in the Menz District.

While in Menz, Cannata was joined by other missionaries who helped expand the community development ministry. Veterinarians and agricul-

(Continued on page 2)

BWA Moves Meeting From Guatemala

WASHINGTON — The General Council of the Baptist World Alliance will hold its 1977 meetings, July 11-15, in Miami Beach, Fla., rather than at Guatemala City, Guatemala, as originally planned, because of visa problems.

Robert S. Denny, general secretary of BWA, made the announcement after the Alliance's staff decided that "the securing of visas to Guatemala would be both difficult and uncertain" for General Council members from several countries.

He said that questions about the av-

(Continued on page 2)

Baptists Rush With Relief Efforts For Flood Victims

NASHVILLE (BP) — Floods which devastated parts of four states left behind a mixture of the ugly and the beautiful, according to reports received here from hard-hit sections of

Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

The flooding, brought on by 24 hours of heavy rainfall, caused rivers to overflow to record levels, destroying millions of dollars of property, taking lives, and leaving thousands homeless and without food and water.

But, across the scarred, mud-covered countryside, scenes of people sacrificing to help each other caused one pastor's wife, Mrs. Earl Waugh of Allen, Ky., to comment: "I believe the Lord is going to use this ugly mess to make something beautiful."

Reports, hampered by downed phone lines and severely damaged roads, are still sketchy about damage to churches and church members and about church-sponsored relief efforts.

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, which works through state

conventions at their request, has already made \$3,000 available to assist relief efforts of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, according to Paul Adkins, the board's director of disaster relief. He said he stands ready to aid others.

The West Virginia Convention, churches in the state and churches from outside the state have already sent relief funds and supplies into the West Virginia disaster area — especially the hard-hit area around Williamson, where over 10,000 persons, most of them elderly, were left homeless.

The state convention's chief executive, John Snedden, told Baptist Press that relief efforts are being channeled through East Williamson Baptist Church, which has cleaned up its damage and established a relief center, under the leadership of pastor, O'Dell Clay. He said the church will make \$10,000 from its building fund available for disaster relief and noted that a Presbyterian church in the Charleston area has sent \$1,000.

Snedden said W. D. Sharp, an area missions director actively involved in relief efforts, has served as a channel of communications to the state offices. He urges any aid be channeled through the state office in St. Albans and that persons send money, rather than goods, unless specifically asked to do otherwise.

Meanwhile, Bluefield College, a Baptist school on the Virginia-West Virginia border, has sent 15 students and three representatives of administration and faculty to aid with cleanup. Pam Gunsten, assistant professor of health and physical education, led an

(Continued on page 3)

Gifts Below March, 1976

Cooperative Program gifts for March from the churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention were \$4,103 below those of the same month in 1976, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

For the first three months of 1977, however, the mission gifts through the Convention Board office have amounted to \$84,824 more than for the same period of 1976.

March gifts through the state convention office were \$691,627 compared with \$685,130 for 1976. For the year to date the gifts have amounted to \$1,929,962 compared with \$1,845,138 for 1976.

The budget figure for three months of 1977 is \$2,100,000.

Golonka Explores Diplomatic Ministry

By Judy Touchton

NEW YORK (BP) — Elias Golonka dreams of the day when Southern Baptists will have an international embassy across the street from the United Nations.

"The mission could be an information and welcome center. There could be Bible studies and Bible distribution... maybe even church services," says Golonka who since 1974 has been conducting a pilot project for the Home Mission Board to explore the possibility of a ministry to the international community.

"Ninety percent of the diplomats I meet have never even seen a Bible," Golonka says.

Recently after a Syrian official spoke to an associational pastor's conference, Golonka explained, "We don't ordinarily pay an honorarium and I'm sure as a diplomat you couldn't accept anyway, but we'd like to give you this Arabic Bible that all the pastors have signed."

The official paused and said, "I was born in Damascus, the city of Paul. I've traveled through London and Paris and other great cities. But no one has ever cared enough to give me a Bible."

Golonka's personal goal is to establish a contact with each United Nations delegation and share the scriptures with them.

"But in many cases, I must follow the steps of protocol: call for an appointment or write the ambassador... and wait," he explains. "It takes so much time."

Sometimes he can bypass the slowness of protocol by taking advantage of opportunities such as the opening of the Chinese embassy after the death of Chairman Mao.

"When I heard the Chinese mission was to be open to the public, I bought a Chinese New Testament and went to express my condolences," Golonka says. "I was taken to the highest ranking official to present the gift on the part of Southern Baptists."

Golonka, a Polish immigrant, feels a responsibility for sharing his "born again" experience and the Bible with the 2 million internationalists in New York City. With some he speaks in En-

(Continued on page 2)



Elias Golonka, who since 1974 has been conducting a pilot project for the Home Mission Board to explore the possibility of a ministry to the international community, dreams of the day when Southern Baptists will have an international embassy across the street from the United Nations — UN building in the background. (BP photo by Tim Nicholas)

Clarke College Elects President

Newton—The Board of Trustees of Clarke College on April 14 elected S. L. Harris of Fort Worth, Tex., as the new president of the college to succeed W. L. Compere, who has requested that he be allowed to retire.

By further action of the Board, Compere was named President-Emeritus, effective at the change in administration which will be about July 1. He has served as president since January 1, 1955.

Harris comes to his new position from the Tarrant County Junior College, Northeast Campus, Fort Worth, where he has served for nine years as counselor and associate professor of sociology. He brings a broad and thorough preparation both in training and experience for the many responsibilities of a college president.

A native of Miles, Tex., he is a graduate of Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., and of Southwest Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth. He earned the master of arts degree from Sam Houston State Teachers College, Huntsville, Tex., and earned a doctor of arts degree from Western Colorado University, Grand Junction, Colo. He has done post-doctoral study at Texas Tech and East Texas State University.

After several years in pastorates in Texas, he was Baptist student director and teacher of Bible at Sam Houston State and Texas Tech, Dean of Students and instructor of Sociology at Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Texas, and administrative consultant in the student department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.



Harris

Harris has been awarded many honors in his educational and professional career, a few of which are: Who's Who Among University and College Students in America; Who's Who in the South and Southwest; Outstanding Educators of America; and Award of Honor, Western Colorado University. He is the author of two books and co-author of a third, all of which were published by the Convention Press of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Also, he has written Sunday School lessons and teaching materials for the Sunday School Board.

He is married to the former Fleta Nell Lindley and they have three daughters, Emily Ann, who is now Mrs. Samuel E. Mills, Jr. and Donna and Paula, both college students.

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Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Washington, D. C. (RNS) — President Carter, teaching the adult Bible class at First Baptist Church here (March 20), said the morning's lesson emphasized "our need to re-commit ourselves to Christ." It was the second time the Chief Executive had taught the class since he moved into the White House and joined First Baptist Church, the other time being on Feb. 20. Since he began attending the class, it has grown in size from a handful to more than 100.

San Francisco (RNS) — A panel of judges here released five Unification Church members from the temporary custody of their parents, saying the young adults were free to do as they please. Three of the five members of the controversial sect founded by Sun Myung Moon indicated they wish to remain with their families. The other two rejoined members of the Moon organization who were present at the hearings here.

Silver Spring, Md. (RNS) — Americans United for Separation of Church and State has announced its support for a black Baptist pastor in Chattanooga, Tenn. who has been denied the right to serve in the state's Constitutional Convention because he is a clergyman. Paul McDaniel, pastor of Second Missionary Baptist Church in Chattanooga, was denied his seat because of a state law passed in 1976 which bans the clergy from serving in the legislature.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (RNS) — A 71-year-old American Protestant missionary was killed by an armed band that attacked his home as he was preparing to leave after 25 years in Ethiopia, church sources here reported. They said that Don McClure of Blairsville, Pa., was shot and killed March 27 on the lawn of his residence in the southern town of Gode, where he had spent the last seven years.

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has ruled that the Church of Scientology of New York is exempt from federal taxes under the IRS regulation which applies to all churches.

The Scientology Church's right to receive religious tax exemption was challenged by the IRS, which questioned whether the controversial organization was a "church." Founded in 1950 by L. Ron Hubbard, a one-time science fiction writer, the Church of Scientology has been described as a "universal" religion. The word "science" means "the study of knowledge," according to the Church.

Denver (RNS) — Ted Patrick is in jail again. The nationally-known deprogrammer of young people was ordered by District Judge Zita Weinschenk to serve a one-year suspended sentence and pay a \$1,000 fine. The ruling was based on his continuing his deprogramming activities, which he had been forbidden to do under the terms of his parole.

Cannata Released

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tunists have helped to upgrade stocks of sheep, cattle and chickens so that they produce more and better wool, more meat and milk, and larger eggs. And, missionaries have also done crop experimentation. All of these efforts have aided the local farmers, who have special problems because of the high altitude.

In addition to agriculture and medicine for the people and their livestock, missionaries have been involved in building bridges and roads, in giving vocational training to various groups, in use of mass media work and in doing general evangelistic work — both in English and the Amharic language. The central office for the missionaries is in Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia, larger than Texas, Ok-

lahoma and Arizona combined, has been linked with Christianity since the fourth century. The Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the state church, claims 94 percent of the Christian population.

Thirty-five to 40 percent of the country's more than 26 million inhabitants are Christian. Another 35-40 percent are Muslim, with animists and traditional African religions making up another 5-15 percent of the population.

Because some persons claim adherence to the Christian or Muslim faiths but still practice traditional religions, it is difficult to get any positive line of distinction among them.

(Susan Cohen is a former staff writer under temporary assignment with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.)

BWA Moves Meeting

(Continued from page 1)
ailability of visas developed in recent conversations with Guatemalan government officials. The uncertainty centered on applicants from Great Britain, Taiwan, Cuba, the countries of Eastern Europe, and possibly others Guatemala and Britain do not have diplomatic relations.

The decision is based on a BWA policy that it will hold its meetings only in locations where all its constituency is welcome.

Earlier, the BWA moved the Baptist World Youth Congress set for July 19-23, 1978, from Hong Kong to Manila, Philippines, because the BWA could

receive no assurances that youth from Eastern Europe, Taiwan and Cuba would be granted visas to enter Hong Kong.

Approximately 300 persons participate in annual meetings of the General Council and its related committees. The BWA's four study commissions and four division committees meet concurrently with the General Council.

Meetings are held in various parts of the world from year to year as a convenience to the BWA's widely scattered constituency. The 1976 sessions were at Whitley Baptist College, Melbourne, Australia.

Golonka Explores

(Continued from page 1)
glish — "my foreign language" — with his light accent.

But to the 146 United Nations delegates and 87 consulars in the city along with the 5,200 international civil servants working in the 39-story UN building, Golonka speaks fluently in 10 slavic languages, including Russian and German.

Golonka maintains, however, that the biggest influence on his success has been Jimmy Carter's election as U.S. President.

"A Communist diplomat in Washington asked me what it meant to be born again, and I had an opportunity to explain..." he says.

"Southern Baptists need to take advantage of this world-wide interest in Christianity," says Golonka who attributes much interest to President Carter's unabashed comments about his personal relationship with God. Carter is a Southern Baptist layman.

Golonka and the President have a friendship going back to the days when Carter participated in door-to-door visitation in a Springfield, Mass., evangelistic campaign supervised by Golonka.

If the money for a Southern Baptist embassy, perhaps \$3 million, could be secured, Golonka hopes he might convince President Carter to appear at the dedication.

"But this is only a dream," Golonka says, "unless I can somehow by the grace of God convince Southern Baptists of the need."

"If Carter would appear there would

be a great opportunity for diplomats to come.

"If only Southern Baptists could have had a vision 20 years ago, we might have a mission to the United Nations already. We must hurry. Something like this is overdue."

SBC Program

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in the task of winning the world to Christ in this century," Dehoney said.

In striving for the combined reports of what the results of missions are around the world, rather than just the SBC structure, Dehoney said the committee on order of business believes the Southern Baptists are more interested in the "biscuit — the end product — than in the mechanics of the reaper or the baking of the flour." (BP)

Clarke Elects

(Continued from page 1)

Mrs. Harris is a graduate of Howard Payne College and earned the master of library science from East Texas State University. Currently she serves as librarian at Watauga Junior High School, Fort Worth. She will be the librarian at Clarke College, succeeding Miss Ann Boutwell who has resigned to be married soon and will be moving away.

Compere has not yet made an announcement as to his future plans after retirement in July.



Taxation

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — The spectre of the federal government supervising Sunday morning church collections was raised here by one of several religious spokesmen who testified against a bill that would require financial disclosure from churches and charitable organizations who receive contributions in the mail.

Roman Catholic, Baptist and Lutheran representatives were among those who spoke out against the measure introduced by Rep. Charles H. Wilson (D-Calif.). They argued against what they said was imprecise language and possible far-reaching, although unintended, results for churches if the bill becomes law.

Although the bill specifically exempts "bona fide membership organizations" who make mail solicitations among their members, critics contend that such terms are left unclear and question to what extent the exemption applies to churches, locally and nationally.

The wording of the bill could "put a government agency in the role of supervisor of (Sunday morning church service) offerings and monitor the way they are distributed and accounted for," objected John W. Baker, associate director in charge of research services for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Father Edwin Dill, S. T., president of the National Catholic Development Conference, and Dr. George F. Harkins, general secretary of the Lutheran Council in the USA also appeared in opposition to the bill.

The proposed legislation would require charitable organizations soliciting contributions that are received in the mail to disclose what the money will be used for and to reveal what percentage of the funds received in the previous fiscal year went directly to the charity program and what percentage was spent for administrative and fundraising costs.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — Protestant missionaries who are not ordained clergy men or women would be considered by the Internal Revenue Service as self-employed for purposes of social security taxes under legislation introduced in the House of Representatives.

Rep. Barber B. Conable Jr. (R-N.Y.) said his measure "would permit unordained individuals to pay social security taxes as self-employed persons," and thus the total paid would be less than at present, when both employer and employee social security taxes are paid.

SEVEN SPRINGS, Pa. (RNS) — The Allegheny (County) League of Municipalities has called for laws to require churches and other tax-exempt property owners to pay for police and fire protection.

Ron Cowell, a state representative who supports the proposal, argues that "with more property being exempted from taxes each year, more of the burden of protection is being placed on individuals."

He called for a "unified effort" to pass the legislation.

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (RNS) — A newspaper charged here that a so-called Church of the New Revelation in Kearny, N. J., is actually a front for an underground child pornography ring and that, as a "church" it had received tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service.

The Traverse City Record-Eagle also said the ring was granted child care aid for homosexual camps for boys in Tennessee and Louisiana. It also sought such aid in eight other states and the District of Columbia.

The newspaper said the so-called church had published an advertisement in a homosexual magazine which provides legal advice for pedophiles, homosexuals interested in young boys.

Music Conference Celebrates 20 Years

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference will celebrate its first 20 years of existence as an organization at its 21st annual meeting, June 12-13, preceding the 131st annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), June 14-18, Kansas City, Mo. The two-day program begins with a 6:30 p.m. Sunday evening service of worship and praise in the auditorium of the headquarters of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (RLDS), Independence, Mo. It moves to Gano Hall, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., for three sessions, Monday, June 13, at 8 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The Sunday night service features Robert Harrison, associate concert master, Atlanta Symphony, on violin; Donald Hustad, organ professor, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, on the organ; worship leading and narration by Ragan Courtney, playwright-lyricist-poet-performer of Nashville; solos by Cynthia Clawson (Mrs. Courtney), soloist - recording artist - song writer of Nashville, and David Ford, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Nashville; the Southern Baptist Singing Men, conducted by James D. Woodward, dean of the school of fine arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; and a massed choir of voices from Missouri and Kansas choirs conducted by Duncan Couch, dean of the music department, Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo.

The conference closes on Monday with an evening of music from William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., after morning and afternoon sessions, featuring a variety of program personnel.

Monday morning, Cleamon Downs, associate professor of church music, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., will speak on "Our First Twenty Years," and Joe Coleman, an architect from Tulsa, Okla., will speak on "Acoustics for the Sanctuary."

Other features at that session include concerts by the Chapel Handbell Choir of Westbury Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., directed by Hart Morris, minister of music; the Children's Choir, First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., directed by Jo Ann Butler, children's choir specialist; the Kentucky Baptist Male Chorale, directed by J. Eugene Sutherland, minister of music, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville; and the Missouri Music Women, directed by Linda Boyd, associate, Missouri Baptist church music department, Jefferson City.

On Monday afternoon, Robert Harrison will give a recital-lecture, "The Violin in Missions"; the adult choir of First Baptist Church, Tulsa, directed by Jim Davis, minister of music, will give a concert honoring Southern Baptist composers west of the Mississippi; the Missouri Music Men, directed by Bob Woolley, secretary of church music, Missouri Baptist Convention, will perform a concert; and optional special interest conferences and Church Music Conference division meetings will be held.

The optional special interest confer-

ences include "The Use of a Solo Orchestral Instrument in the Worship Service," by Doug Smith, associate professor of church music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; "Acoustics for the Sanctuary, Coleman; "Handbell Demonstration and Materials," the Chapel Handbell Choir, Westbury Church, Houston; and "What to Do in Case of a Choir Rehearsal," Woodward.

Also at the afternoon session, Gene Bartlett, church music secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, will premier an anthem commissioned by the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, "It Takes Faith."

The Church Music Conference is divided into educational, denominational and local church divisions. Officers are Paul R. Bobbit Jr., president, director of church music, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville; president-elect, James C. McKinney, dean of the school of church music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; Max Lyall, vice president, educational division, associate professor of church music, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Allen R. Brown, vice president, denominational division, church music secretary, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Richmond; Jim Ashworth, vice president, local church division, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Ponca City, Okla.; and Mary June Tabor, secretary - treasurer, of the church music department, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City.

Amsterdam (RNS) — President William R. Tolbert, Jr., of Liberia told the First World Congress on Religious Liberty here that no sect of Christians "shall have exclusive privileges or preferences over any other sect." Dr. Tolbert, a past president of the Baptist World Alliance and head of the Baptist Church in Liberia, extended his greetings in a message delivered by Nathaniel Gibson, Liberian Ambassador to the the Netherlands.

USE ELECTRICITY WISELY

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By Dr. W. A. Criswell

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Baptists Rush Relief Efforts

(Continued from page 1)

early contingent, followed later by Gerald White, dean of students, who piloted a small plane into the area, and David Roberts, director of public relations.

In Kentucky, where rising waters wreaked heavy damage in small towns, early reports from staffers of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, and the Western Recorder, state Baptist news publication, indicate damages to a number of churches.

D. M. Aldridge, president of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky., dismissed classes, and the school, which escaped damage, set up housing for some 400 homeless persons, according to Maynard Head, director of public relations.

Working around the clock, students, who had earlier gone door-to-door urging families to evacuate, went into mountain hollows with sandwiches, drinking water and changes of clothing.

Flood waters reached the balcony railing of Pineville's First Baptist Church, causing extensive damage and destroying a newly installed \$90,000 pipe organ. Members gathered there on Easter Sunday morning for a brief worship service before beginning cleanup. Flood waters also extensively damaged the parsonage of Pastor Charles F. Jones.

Sketchy reports indicate other damaged churches in Kentucky include the First Baptist Churches of Allen, Loyall and Martin, among others. Many members of the churches and pastors lost most or all of their belongings.

"My guess is that at least 98 percent of us lost our belongings," said Dean Pack, pastor of the Loyall church, who lost contents of his own home. "At this point I don't know if we'll ever rebuild," he said of his destroyed church. "A lot will depend on what fi-

nancial assistance our sister churches can provide."

A radio station in Pineville credited an airlift of food by helicopter, organized by First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, as "the lifesavers of the community," where 2,000 of the town's 3,000 residents evacuated their homes. The church later sent a caravan of vehicles with other relief supplies.

Meanwhile, Middlesboro had also suffered damage and the church had met crisis in its own city by providing shelter for about 40 homeless persons and free meals and clothing.

Reports indicate a number of other Baptist churches also launched relief efforts, including East Cumberland Church, Middlesboro; Binghampton Church, Middlesboro; Harlan Church, Harlan, which the Red Cross designated as a community disaster center; First Church, Whitesburg; Irene Cole Memorial Church, Prestonburg; and others.

Irene Cole's pastor, W. D. Jagers, a member of the local rescue squad, left a revival meeting to return to help. Traveling by truck, he dispensed powdered milk, distilled water, canned goods and staples, and words of encouragement and Christian testimony.

Residents in the areas of the four states, which President Jimmy Carter has declared a disaster area, may not recover for years, observers indicate. But their ability to rise to the emergency has amazed many.

W. B. Bingham, pastor of the Binghampton Church in Middlesboro, recalls standing in the ruins of a home owned by members of his church, leading them in a prayer. As he started to leave, they placed two envelopes, containing their tithes, in his hand. He tried to refuse but they remained firm. "No, it's not ours," they replied. "This is the Lord's money."

Summer Youth Ministers' Lab To Be May 13-15

FORT WORTH, Tex. — "Have It His Way" is the theme for the 1977 Summer Youth Ministers' Lab to be held May 13-15 on the campus of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

The conference is designed to prepare summer youth ministers and full time ministers of youth for the upcoming summer ministries. Various sessions will be lead by denominational personnel and other youth specialists.

Conference sessions and their respective leaders include "Discipling," Don Poole; "Creative Worship," Bob Oldenburg; "Planning," Bob Taylor; "Drama," Paula Brooks; and "Outdoor Recreation," Reggie Mayo.

A \$15 fee will cover registration and a notebook which will contain the youth ministers' resource kit. Deadline for registration is May 1.

Registration may be obtained by writing Youth Ministers' Lab, P. O. Box 22000, Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., 76122.



Redford, Former HMB Exec., Dies

Courts Redford, 78, former executive secretary - treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, died April 11, in Springfield, Mo.

Redford, also a former president of Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Mo., had been ill since suffering a heart attack in January. (Photo by Southwest Baptist College)

Simpson Has County-Wide Tent Crusade, Apr. 17-24

Many churches and Christian leaders in Magee, Mendenhall, and surrounding communities are joining hands to conduct the Simpson County Area-Wide Crusade for Christ, April 17-24, under a giant canvas cathedral to be located at Magee City Park. All services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Coming to conduct the crusade will be the E. J. Daniels Evangelistic Team, whose international headquarters is located in Orlando, Fla.

Assisting the evangelist with the music will be Danny Wolfe, music director and trumpeter from Huntsville, AL, who will also direct the 100-voice crusade choir and John Bos, native of Holland and known as one of the nation's foremost evangelistic organists-pianists. Also to appear will be the Fairchild Trio of Atlanta, GA.

Caley R. Nichols, pastor of the Eastside Baptist Church of Magee, is General Chairman of the Crusade.

There will be special crusade features for ALL AGES, including pre-crusade activities for children and young people nightly at 7:00. Daniels will speak to teenagers on "Love, Courtship and Marriage" in the youth tent; while children, ages 6-12 will enjoy "Kid's Movie Jamboree", music, and puppet shows in the children's tent.

Special guests for the crusade will include Mrs. Marlyn Ford, Thursday night, April 21. Mrs. Ford was blind for over 12 years, and reports she was instantly healed as she and her husband, a Baptist pastor, were having their devotions in the privacy of their home.

Tom Lester, "Eb" on "Green Acres" who also started in the movie, "Benji", will be the honored guest of the crusade Sunday night, April 24, to share his testimony.

Plenty of parking space is available

at the crusade site, and free nurseries for children through age three are provided at the sponsoring churches.

R. G. Lee In Memphis Hospital

MEMPHIS (BP) — Robert G. Lee, 90-year-old former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been transferred to Methodist Hospital here by ambulance airplane from Oklahoma City, where he had been hospitalized for about a week.

Lee, in Oklahoma City to preach a revival meeting, suffered two heart attacks and had been listed in critical to grave condition.

But a Methodist Hospital spokesman here said the well-known pastor emeritus of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, was in satisfactory condition as of April 13.

A daughter, Mrs. E. R. King of Shelbyville, Tenn., said her father needs rest and will not be allowed visitors or telephone calls. As for the return to Memphis, she said "he was fretting so much about getting home they were afraid he would have another heart attack."

He had been scheduled to speak at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, June 12-13, Kansas City, Mo. He still travels hundreds of miles each year for preaching engagements.

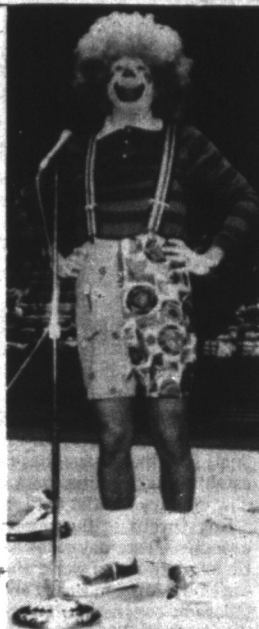
A Date With Ditto

The Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson was the scene recently when 2,200 4th, 5th, and 6th graders gathered for the State Young Musicians Festival, sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The memorized music for the event was "A Rhyme, A Riddle, A Song" by Grace Hawthorne and Beryl Red. Red, guest conductor, directed his own composition. "Ditto the Clown" (Ed Spruill of First, Birmingham) delighted the children with his antics during the special entertainment portion of the program.

Dramatizations were provided by Young Musicians groups from Alta Woods, Jackson; Parkway, Jackson; First, Quitman; First, Biloxi, First, Houston; and First, Brandon.

Receiving the trophy for the largest choir present was First, Magee, Paul Padgett, director. An autoharp was presented to First, Glendale, Mrs. Dallas Rayborn, director, for having the largest attendance from a rural church.



Annual Associational Planning Workshop

Lunch is included in the annual Associational Planning Workshop, scheduled for May 17, at Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson.

According to Chester Vaughn, MBCB Program Director, the workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. and dismiss at 4:00 p.m. The eleven associational council members from each Mississippi Baptist Association is invited to attend at Board expense. These officers are: director of missions, moderator, clerk, directors of Sunday School, Training Union, Church Music, WMU, and Brotherhood, missions committee chairman, and stewardship committee and evangelism committee chairmen.

Separate conferences during the workshop are scheduled for each of the above-mentioned positions.

Carl Hart Named HMB Chaplaincy Director

PHOENIX (BP) — Alfred Carl Hart has been elected director of the division of chaplaincy of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here, succeeding William L. Clark, who retired Dec. 31, 1976.

The election came during the Spring board meeting of the 68-member board in Phoenix.

Directors also elected Fermin Agustin Whittaker as assistant director of the department of language missions. Whittaker succeeds Daniel Sanchez, who resigned to become director of evangelism for the Baptist State Convention of New York.

In other action, the board re-elected its officers for the coming year. They are Tommy Jones, pastor of Vine Street Baptist Church, Macon, Ga., president; Mrs. I. W. (Nell) Bowen of Forsyth, Ga., first vice president; James Richard Maples of El Paso, Tex., second vice president; Mrs. Sidney (Jeannine) King of Atlanta, recording secretary; and Mrs. W. B. (Ouida) Blount of Winder, Ga., assistant recording secretary.

Hart has been associate director of the division of chaplaincy since 1970. He came to the board after being director of chaplaincy for the Tennessee Department of Corrections.

Previously, he was chaplain of the Brushy Mountain Prison in Petros, Tenn., and of the Shelby County Penal Farm in Memphis, Tenn. He also served as pastor of churches in Tennessee and North Carolina.

Hart, a native of Collierville, Tenn., is president of the American Protestant Correctional Association and has served the APCA as first and second vice president, director, and chairman of the editorial committee. He is a graduate of Bethel College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board, said he is "very pleased" with Hart's election and noted Hart is "a person who is not limited to one area of the chaplaincy, but is familiar with all areas."

As director of chaplaincy, Hart will be responsible to "promote and give direction to the program of chaplaincy ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention." As such, he will oversee work of the Chaplain's Commission.



Hart

which procures and screens Southern Baptist candidates for the chaplaincy and recommends endorsements where appropriate.

Whittaker, a native of Colon, Republic of Panama, has been Spanish church growth worker for the lan-



Whittaker

guage missions department with the Southern Baptist General Convention of California. Previously, he was pastor in Pico Rivera, Calif., and Palgrave, Ontario, Canada. He is a graduate of Toronto Baptist Seminary and California Baptist College.

Ministry To Seafarers Conference Is To Be Held In New Orleans April 26, 27

The Gulf Coast Ministry to Seafarers Conference will be held April 26 and 27, in New Orleans. The non-denominational meeting has been planned for persons who are engaged with and interested in the social, spiritual, and personal well-being of the seamen who visit the Gulf ports.

The program will include participation by all New Orleans agencies that work with seamen, in addition to certain international experts. Beginning at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 26, the first session will be at the Norwegian Seamen's Church, 1772 Prytanis Street. It will be followed by luncheon and dinner at Delmonico's Restaurant, other sessions at Rivergate Convention Center, and a thanksgiving service and luncheon on the riverboat "Natchez."

John P. Vandercook, director of the New Orleans Baptist Seamen's Service, states that Southern Baptists involved in the meeting will include local

seamen's ministers, seamen's ministers from other U.S. ports, and personnel from state conventions and the Home Mission Board.

Sponsors will include Chinese Seamen's Mission, Dutch Ministry to Seamen, German Seamen's Mission, Greater Orleans Federation of Churches, Greek Seamen's Ministry, Norwegian Seamen's Church, Pre-

sbyterian Seamen's Ministry, Roman Catholic Seamen's Service; and New Orleans Baptist Seamen's Service.

John Vandercook states that he invites all Southern Baptist Seamen's workers to stay over Thursday morning, April 28, for a sharing and fellowship meeting at the Baptist Seamen's Center. This meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and end with lunch.

Gaddy Leaving CLC, To Assume Pastorate

NASHVILLE (BP) — C. Welton Gaddy, director of Christian citizen development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission (CLC), has accepted the pastorate of the 5,000 member Broadway Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex., effective May 29.

Gaddy succeeds John Claypool, a former CLC chairman, who left the Broadway church pastorate in December 1976 to become pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss. The CLC staffer will be the Fort Worth church's 17th pastor.

A native of Paris, Tenn., Gaddy has been with the commission since January 1973. Previously, he was a pastor in Kentucky, Indiana and Tennessee, served as a college instructor, and was instructor of Christian preaching at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

He was graduated from Union Uni-

versity, Jackson, Tenn., with the bachelor of arts degree, and earned the bachelor of divinity, master of theology and doctor of philosophy degrees from Southern Seminary.

He is married to the former Miss Julia Mae Grabel. They have two children, John Paul and James Welton.

Attention Chaplains!

The Cooperative Missions Department sponsors an organization of Southern Baptist chaplains in our state. The purpose of this is to provide fellowship, encouragement, and promotion of chaplaincy in our convention. It is composed of active, retired, and volunteer chaplains.

If you fit into one of these categories and are not on our mailing list and would like to be, we would appreciate your sending us your name and address. We would also like to have your telephone number.

You may send this information to Foy Rogers, Director, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, MS, 39205.

Evangelism Conference Cancelled

The South Mississippi area evangelism conferences scheduled for May 9, 10, and 12, have been cancelled because of unexpected conflicts in scheduling of the associations, according to Roy Collum, MBCB director of evangelism.

The conferences cancelled were to be at First Baptist, Wiggins; Magnolia Street Baptist, Laurel; and at Central Baptist, Brookhaven.

"Small Sunday School" Meet



Ferrell Blankenship, minister of education for First Baptist, Hattiesburg, led a Small Sunday School Conference, April 14, at First Baptist Church, Mize. Giles Hankins, pastor of FBC, Mize, hands out materials as Blankenship explains contents.

The conference, one of 30 scheduled last week for South Mississippi associations, was designed for churches with fewer than 200 enrolled in Sunday School.

The Smith Association conference drew representatives from First, Mize; White Oak; Good Water; and Tadd. Each conference was sponsored by the MBCB Sunday School Department.

Each conference provided an introduction of new Sunday School materials and an interpretation of general administrative matters for small Sunday Schools such as in-outreach and departmental organization.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

The Acts In Montana

As a part of Bold Mission Thrust, Mississippians could well give attention to the work of the churches in Montana. While there is a convention embracing the four states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana, and the work is well-organized and effective, it is still a pioneer area. The churches can use some help, and Mississippi has adopted Montana.

Any aid would be put to good use in the beautiful state. This writer has been there only once, and there were found churches that are aggressive and appealing. There is a mission work among themselves as they begin new preaching points where ever the need is seen. Money is limited to put into these new mission stations, so the pastors and lay people who are there invest their time — a lot of it.

For instance, there is Donnie Bond. Not long ago he was pastor of a church in Mississippi. He is now the pastor of the church in Conrad, Montana; and he found that the town of Valier, some distance away, had a very nice building available but no Baptist witness. He began work there during the week.

Jack Park is a Kentuckian. He is pastor at Shelby, and the opportunity arose to begin work in Browning among the Blackfoot Indians. There was a fine building but no worker at that time. Park took it on until a worker could be found.

Ovis Fairley is a former Mississippian. His wife, Virginia, once worked

in the state WMU Department. Ovis, now moved to Wyoming, was pastor of Highland Church in Great Falls. On what is known as Hill 57 outside of town a sizeable number of Indians have built houses as best they can because of economic factors. A sort of community house of concrete blocks was available, so Ovis started a Sunday School in it. He kept hoping for a better facility that would belong to Baptists.

Visiting the work in Montana is almost akin to looking on the activities detailed in the Book of Acts. People are looking for opportunities to witness, are finding them, and are going into action to do something about them. Mississippians have made a sizeable impact for the Lord in that state. The writer does not know all from this state who are serving in Montana now. Some will not be mentioned because of that, but immediately there comes to mind Bob Maddux at First Southern in Great Falls and W. J. Hughes, the area missions director for the eastern portion. Tom and Martha Hocutt took their college work at William Carey. They are in Helena. Curtis Ellis, who was pastor at Raymond, Miss., is now pastor of Immanuel Church, Billings, Mont., one of the strongest in the state.

R. L. Mefford once worked with the Indians in Philadelphia, Miss. Now he works with Indians in Montana.

These folks are a long way from what used to be home. But they are dug in and making their work count. (Dug in is an Army term meaning one is

firmly established.)

Joe Thomas Odle, now deceased but then a young Mississippi College student, took the census that resulted in establishing the initial work in Helena, now Calvary Baptist Church.

Roy Owens is the relatively new executive secretary of the convention. He knows mission work. He was with the Home Mission Board and with the Colorado convention before going to the Northern Plains Convention. The work is steady and it is stable. It is also exciting and it is growing. Many Mississippi churches already have Montana churches in their budgets for missions help above their Cooperative Program gifts.

Also, of course, that primary pipeline of missions support throughout Mississippi, all across the nation, and all over the world, is also pumping financial help into the Northern Plains Convention area. And the churches up there are helping themselves, for surely they see their own missions needs better than anyone else and are taking positive measures to meet them, both with finances and with time.

There are areas where Mississippians can help, however. That help needs to be organized and used wisely in order to complement the aid already being rendered. It would be well to check with Owens or either of the two area missions directors, Hughes in the east or Glenn Field in the west.

We are a part of a modern Acts of the Apostles right here in our own nation.

Guest Editorial Roots

Everyone is talking about "Roots." Its showing was one of the biggest things ever on television. Besides that, two million copies of the book have already been printed and this number will be multiplied by the paperback edition in a few months.

Experts argue over the impact of this tremendous story. Reviews and criticism range all along the scale. Whatever is said, most of us will feel the influence of this television presentation the rest of our lives.

One of the significant results of the story is the interest around in origins. Many people have developed a new desire to learn what their forebears were like. What price did our ancestors pay for their commitments? What have those before us endured? And what significance to us are their trials and their achievements?

Two conflicting human qualities in the story may have helped capture public interest. One was the cruelty shown by human beings to other human beings. The other was the en-

durance of persons under oppression. The situation has been often repeated in human history.

To know and understand their origins can motivate people both to develop unity and also to set directions and work together purposefully.

The past year was one of reviewing and celebrating national beginnings. "Roots" was therefore a timely media event. We would all do well to look back to our origins.

For instance, look at our spiritual forefathers. We magnify their accomplishments. Let us remember their sacrifices.

Remember Adoniram Judson and his wife who became Baptists on their way to a mission field in Asia. They landed in Burma, now Thailand, in July, 1813. Few have paid the price paid by Judson, including a period of miserable confinement in stocks in a Burmese prison.

Remember Obadiah Holmes, a Massachusetts Baptist, who was ar-

rested for having "an unauthorized meeting" which consisted of a visit in the home of an aged and blind Baptist named William Witter. For sharing the gospel with the handful there he was thoroughly whipped on September 6, 1651, in the streets of Boston.

Remember Thomas Helwys who helped to establish the first Baptist church on English soil about 1612. He published a pamphlet in which he said that God and not the English king had authority over men's souls. For that he was thrown in prison where he died. By the way, that king was King James I who authorized the translation of the Bible which is referred to as the King James Version.

A knowledge of our Baptist roots should encourage us to stand with new courage for God's sovereignty in this world and for human responsibility in serving him.

By Elmer Gray
Editor, The California
Southern Baptist

Letters To The Editor

Televised Freedom

Gentlemen:

Freedom of speech is being interpreted by the news media and the entertainment industry as a freedom to print on magazines and newspapers and display on TV screens and motion picture films, social practices and conduct completely contrary to historic moral standards, Christian and Jewish. They too often find their way into our homes. Since there is apparently no attempt made to rebut or reject such conduct through the "industry," people young enough to be forming their opinions on such subjects are led to the conclusion that they are abnormal unless they do likewise when the reverse is true.

This "industry" is so concerned with material gain that no amount of spiritual logic or teaching is likely to

change them or the governing bodies which have the duty to regulate. This charge is equally true of our congress, judiciary and bureaucracy at all government levels, with ineffective exceptions.

Three programs in particular fit into this category. They are "Barretta," "Charlie's Angels," and "Three's Company." These programs are being shown freely; but there is also a freedom to disapprove them and the people through whom they are presented, including in particular the greatest offender — the advertiser. The only effective way to reach the advertiser is through his pocketbook. Therefore, I suggest that each person who shares my concern on this subject take time to write to the advertisers of these programs, as many as you can, and refrain from buying any product advertised on them.

This letter by itself will accomplish little; but it can truly work wonders through God's help and the support of others recruited by people who approve this letter.

There was no intent to indicate the programs mentioned were the only offenders. Fortunately, they are the only ones to which I have been exposed so far.

John M. Gardner
Gulfport

Bible Belt Shift

Dear Sir:

The March 3rd issue carried an item giving a U. of Kansas professor's ideas about the shift of the Bible belt.

It's interesting to note that the professor says Jackson, Miss. is the "Buckle" of the belt.

I hope this prediction about the South is false; that it will become more liberal religiously because of the elec-

tion of Jimmy Carter as President. God help us if our religion is that shallow.

Quite a number of influential Baptists have inferred or stated that Jimmy Carter's stand on religion will help the cause of Southern Baptists. I, for one, wish he was not a Southern Baptist because I believe he will tarnish us more than he will help us.

A close scrutiny of his statements viewed against past actions reveals equivocation by him. The Playboy interview revealed poor judgment and is an example of his lack of a sense of propriety.

M. F. Strum
Biloxi

I don't take Playboy, nor did I buy a copy. I did read that complete interview, however. It was never mentioned in this paper because we did not wish to get into the politics of the election. I must say, though, that the Playboy writer, (who didn't work for Playboy, incidentally—he was free lancing) admits it was the toughest interview he had ever conducted. He paid his way on campaign air trips, and he got his interview by badgering the candidate when the latter was bone weary.

I did not vote for Mr. Carter, and I am not defending him. Perhaps he should not have let his name be associated with a Playboy interview. He did deliver a ringing testimony where it might have been needed most. Some words could have been better chosen, however.

Thank you for your letter. Perhaps it gave us a chance to shed some light on a much-discussed subject. Let's pray for him. I suppose we will just have to let time help us decide what impact his presidency has on the cause of Southern Baptists.—Editor

Book Reviews

FREE AT LAST by Bill Glass; Word Books, Waco, Texas; 164 pages; \$5.95.

This former football player discusses his reluctance to enter into a prison ministry. He had hoped to enter into a more conventional evangelism ministry. He relates how obstacles were removed and the prison ministry became a reality. He tells of the ugliness of prison life and also records the working of the Lord through the team that is made up of professional athletes, amateur entertainers, and Christian laymen.

MEET THE REAL JESUS by Bill Chitwood; Broadman; 128 pages; \$2.25.

The writer, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala., maintains that many concepts of Jesus may be beautiful and true but still incomplete. He points to a rich and magnetic personality that caused crowds to follow Him and disciples to give their lives for Him. He uses all four gospels for his basis.

WELCOME BACK, JESUS! by W. A. Criswell; Broadman; 189 pages; \$5.95.

The pastor of the largest of Southern Baptist Churches, First Church, Dallas, is one of the greatest exponents of the premillennial view of the second coming. He declares that there is no reason for despair or fear because Jesus is coming back. He discusses how and why.

SIMPLE SERMONS FOR A WORLD IN CRISIS, by W. Herschel Ford; Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Mich.; 107 pages; \$1.95.

This is the 35th book in the simple sermons series by this author. The chapter titles include What Price Christianity, Wake the Town and Tell the People, Doubting Thomas, Divine Degrees, Threefold Salvation, Walking in Newness of Life, Where Will You Spend Eternity? Remember God Before It Is Too Late, Why Did Jesus Have to Die, and The Glory of a Good Life.

THE DEVIL, by John Wesley White; Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Ill.; 192 pages; \$4.95.

The author explores what the Bible has to say about Satan; where he came from, why he is in the world today, how he works, how he can be overcome, and where he is going. He uses the Living Bible. The foreword is by Billy Graham. White is an associate evangelist with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

By Edward B. Trott
Missionary-in-Residence

About nine years ago we moved from the City of Sergipe, Brazil, to the state of Paraiba. Soon we were saddened to learn that the First Baptist Church of Joao, Pessoa, the state capital, wasn't contributing to the "Plano Cooperativo," the Brazilian Baptist Cooperative Program.

It is the oldest Baptist church in the State and the founder of many of the Baptist churches in Paraiba. Everything about the church was at a low ebb. Attendance was down and equally so was the financial situation of the church. They were having difficulties paying the pastor. In fact the pastor was working at outside employment to make ends meet. Later he told me that he had contemplated leaving the ministry because of the bad situation of the church.

Through prayer, the pastor, Thomas Munguba, and the leaders of the



Religious Liberty Congress Plans Continued Vigilance

AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands (BP) — The first World Congress on Religious Liberty here took steps "to monitor the world religious liberty situation and deal with specific religious liberty concerns," according to a resolution approved by the participants.

The congress by its resolution authorized a continuing committee from various religious traditions to pursue the objectives of religious liberty around the world.

After three days in late March of discussions and reports on conditions in several nations, the congress voted "to draw attention to governments to religious liberty as a fundamental human right flowing from the dignity of the human person, the violation of which is incongruous with international law and contemporary human social relations."

Specifically, the congress urged that an interreligious peace conference be held in Moscow, June 6-10, "underline the importance of religious liberty in every nation of the world as an important factor making her peaceful, individual, social and international relations."

Three hundred and fifty participants from 30 nations in Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia and Australia made up the congress. It was sponsored by the International Religious Liberty Association, Washington, D. C.; L'Association Internationale Pour la Defense de la Liberte Religieuse, Bern, Switzerland; and Liberty, a

magazine devoted to religious freedom.

Deeply involved in the planning of the congress was the Seventh-Day Adventist Church as represented by its department on public affairs and religious liberty.

Two Baptists were prominent in the congress. James E. Wood Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D. C., delivered an address on "A Biblical View of Religious Liberty: A Christian Perspective."

President William R. Tolbert of the Republic of Liberia in Africa sent a special message to the congress. He is pastor of a Baptist church in Liberia and is a former president of the Baptist World Alliance.

A second world congress on religious liberty is contemplated within two years to be held in a yet-to-be determined place, possibly in Latin America.

During the special awards session, Baylor University, Waco, Tex., was recognized "for its active program of research and graduate studies in the area of church-state relations." The award for Baylor was received by Wood, who was head of the J. M. Dawson Studies in Religious Liberty and Church-State Relations while he was a professor at the Baptist school.

Speakers at the congress included representatives from both socialist and democratic countries, spokesmen for Christianity, Judaism and Islam, and supreme court justices from Norway and Greece.

A Church Renewed

church realized that unless the church changed drastically it would soon die. They were led to the conclusion that they had to put missions in first place in the life of the church. The Cooperative Program was put back into the church budget and the church was reorganized to promote every aspect of missions.

Almost immediately the church was transformed. The members began to witness in their own city. Others thought about towns where they had been reared or where they had relatives. They became burdened for three places that had so many lost people living in them. The church sent out teams of laymen, including one blind man, to preach throughout the state. New work was begun in many places. Since this time, the church has been faithfully giving to missions.

A few years ago, the buildings of the church were needing painting. The church has a beautiful plant located

for a wide avenue and overlooks a natural lake in the center of town. It had been declared a tourist attraction by the city of Joao Pessoa.

But without paint the church's buildings attracted no one for their beauty. The pastor told me that they would not reduce their mission giving to paint their buildings, and they didn't. But the church did get their buildings painted.

Two years ago a man who is not a member of the church gave them the money to paint the outside, and two ladies gave the needed funds to paint the inside of the buildings. After the painting, the plant was prettier than it ever had been.

How is the church doing now? Well, on Sundays, the large auditorium is usually completely filled. The church is leading the state in baptisms. It has mission points scattered all over Paraiba. Also as you might expect the church ranks first in mission giving.

Great Need For Evangelists In South America, Says Harris

FORT WORTH (BP) — James G. Harris, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board president, recently made a "listening" tour of South America and what he heard most was a cry for more preachers and additional funds to help buy land for church sites.

"The greatest needs I saw were for preachers who are evangelists and church builders, and for money to buy lots to build churches, especially in the growing urban centers," Harris, pastor of Fort Worth's University Baptist Church and president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said in an interview.

Harris and his wife visited all the countries in South America where Southern Baptist missionaries are serving, except Venezuela. He spoke in churches, seminars, hospitals and even on a riverboat in the Amazon River during the month-long tour.

"In each country I came together to have dialogue with the missionaries. They all expressed their gratitude for the support Southern Baptists and the Foreign Mission Board give them," he explained. "But they also shared their great burdens for their various coun-

tries."

And the greatest of those burdens is the need for preachers. He said the need is everywhere. This is not to say that other missionaries on the field are not doing their share, but the greatest need is for missionaries who are exclusively preachers, Harris said.

In Colombia, Harris said, many are coming to accept Christ because of Robert L. Edwards, Southern Baptist missionary who is spending a year ministering to the medical needs of people in a barrio in Barranquilla. "But we do not have a missionary to go and start a church there when he leaves. He's opened the door, but there's no one to go and start a church."

South America has immediate need for more church leaders and for land for more church sites, Harris said. In Sao Paulo, described as the fastest growing city in the world, one church could have bought a lot for \$10,000 a few years ago. The money was not available. Since that time, he said, the price of the lot has gone to \$200,000 and "They'll never be able to buy it."

He mentioned that one church is paying \$3,000 a month for three years

to buy a lot. Since no Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds were available at that time, the nationals went ahead with the purchase and have been sacrificing to meet the payments. Many of the church's 200 members have given up life savings to help in the purchase. He said the Lottie Moon Offering is more than matched by the money and sacrifice of the nationals.

"Our people in the States need to know that when they give to the Lottie Moon Offering they are not just giving a handout. These people match the money with their lives," Harris added.

"South America is wide open to the gospel. I don't know of any place where the opportunities are greater," Harris said. Almost one-third of the current requests for new missionaries come from South America, according to figures released by the board's department of missionary personnel.

Of 211 personnel requests for South America, 183 are for missionaries in evangelism and church development. The 28 other requests include student workers, secretaries, teachers and a hospital dietitian, all of whom also will be active in spreading the gospel, a board spokesman said.

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"GAs, Thank You For Your Prayers"

Girls in Action across the nation during March studied about the Choctaw Indians of Mississippi. The March issue of the GA magazine, *Discovery*, was given almost entirely to pictures of, and articles about, the Choctaws.

During a March revival at the Canaan Church, ten Choctaws made professions of faith in Christ. Martha Haggan of Philadelphia, missionary to the Choctaws, believes that this good response was an answer to the nationwide prayers of GAs. In the past few weeks Mrs. Haggan and her husband, Dolton, have received letters from more than 200 GAs from many states, containing assurances of prayer support.

One *Discovery* article featured Calvin Isaac, elected chief of the Choctaw Indians of Mississippi and an active lay leader in the Canaan Church. The

chief was one of the church members who helped to make personal contacts for the revival meeting.

Emmett Denson, Choctaw pastor, was evangelist for the eight-day revival at Canaan. "Many GAs had prayed for Pastor Denson last summer during Vacation Bible School when he was featured in the first day's missions emphasis," Mrs. Haggan said.

"During the revival while the GAs were praying," she continued, "the Hand of the Lord touched ten Choctaw Indians who responded by making public decisions to accept Jesus as their Savior. The ten have been baptized into the fellowship of Canaan Baptist Church. GAs, thank you for your prayers. Let us praise God together."



During a revival at Canaan Church, ten Choctaw Indians responded by making public decisions to accept Jesus as their Savior. The revival was held during March when Girls in Action across the United States were studying about and praying for the Choctaws of Mississippi.



William Carey College's Alumni Association cited Mr. and Mrs. Owen Cooper during Homecoming festivities March 26 for their unselfish Christian service to humanity. A Yazoo City businessman, Cooper, right, is a past president of the SBC and a hard-working lay church leader. Mrs. Cooper is also active in church work and is a member of the board of trustees of William Carey College. Shown with the Coopers are Dwight Trippe, left, newly-elected president of the Carey Alumni Association, and Ralph Noonkester, president of the college.

Names In The News

James and Zelma Foster, missionaries to the Philippines now on leave of absence, have moved from Greenwood to Natchez, where their new address is River Breeze Apartments, L-1, Natchez, MS 39210. He states that he is available to serve the Lord in supply preaching, pastoral or music work.

Jasper Lewis McPhail, Academic Dean of the Veterans' Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona, has been awarded the "Service to Humanity Award" by Mississippi College for his achievements in medicine and education. His career achievements include first Southern Baptist missionary to India, Director of Medical Education at Spartanburg General Hospital in South Carolina, Associate Dean for Clinician of Surgery at University of Arkansas Medical Center, developer and Director of the School of Health Sciences at the University of Central Arkansas, and founder of the first physical therapy school and the first occupational and respiratory programs in the State of Arkansas. He is a Mississippian.



Ralph Hall has accepted the call to become associate pastor and minister of music at White Oak Church, Smith County. A native of Coldwater, he is married to the former Bonnie Johnson. They have one child, Melody, 3 months old. Ralph is a graduate of Clarke College, and is a senior at Miss. College. Ordained by the Evansville Church, Coldwater, he has served Northcrest, Meridian; Thomaston, Ala.; and as pastor of the Horeb Church, Whatley, Ala. He was founder and director of the Clarke County Associational Youth Choir in Grove Hill, Ala. Before coming to White Oak, he served Calvary, Vicksburg as associate pastor and minister of youth. W. G. Dowdy is the pastor of White Oak.

East Side Church, New Augusta, has called as pastor and ordained Joseph A. Kiley. Kiley was a student at Baptist Bible Institute in Florida and is now a student at William Carey College, Hattiesburg.

Richard Sims, pastor of the North Atlanta Baptist Church, Atlanta, since 1967, is the new editor of *Church Training* magazine in the church training department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. He is a native of Tennessee.

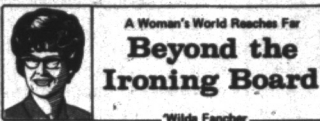
Simmons Memorial Church, Flora, has announced that H. Bethea Fielding has accepted the call to be pastor of their church. He is a native of Alabama. His wife Sandra, is a native Mississippian. He served churches in Arizona the past seven years. They have two daughters, Monica 12 and Maranda 19 mo.



Centerville Church, Jones County, Gerald Keith Gordon, pastor, has ordained the following as deacons: Billy Kirby, A. B. Broadway, Charles Grayson, Kenneth Butler, Winston Wade, Scott Elzey. B. S. Hilbun was interim pastor at the time of the ordination.



Central Church, Brookhaven, has been awarded the Distinguished Certificate for Church Training for 1975-76 and 1976-77. Pictured are Don Cothran, director of the Young Adult Department; Janice Welborn, director of the Children's Department; Bessie McLain, director of the Pre-School Department; and Randy Porter, Church Training director. H. Glen Schilling is pastor.



Beyond the Ironing Board

Do you ever feel like all your leaves fell off? Like a plant which suddenly dropped all its glorious greenery and color? Like a flower which dropped its petals? Like everything that your mind and heart have told you all along as important suddenly melted away and nothing was left? Like a cold wind put you into shock, and nobody noticed?

Course you have. All of us have. But, isn't it fantastic that leaves branch out and buds reappear and greenery and color grow again? I'm not sure what botanists call that, but Christians call it things like mercy, grace, and compassion. It's that principle that has been in action for as long as God has been — and that's quite a while — which keeps us aware that God's energy is available to us, and that His power and love surround us, and that today will be followed by tomorrow.

It's the principle that is involved when I cut, and place in my silver bud vase, a long-stemmed yellow rose bud almost every day now: I remember how dismal that bush looked a few months ago — looking at it through the winter gave little pleasure. But without the winter — its barren, ugly season — that rose bush would not have produced the loveliness of bloom and fragrance we enjoy now.

Looking past winter, past dropped leaves, past empty limbs, I wonder if that is the way God looks at me during all the "winters" that I go through when I am not producing for him the way I'm supposed to.

It takes the winter to get to the spring; it takes barrenness to get to the fruit; it takes preparation to get to the harvest.

And so let us be thankful for winter, even.

Former Pastor Dies

BUDE, MISS — Otis Jones age 78 died March 19, 1977 at his residence at Bude following an apparent heart attack.

Jones retired as pastor of the First Baptist Church at Bude in 1970. He had served the Perkinston Baptist Church, Perkinston Hamburg and Hopewell Baptist Churches in Franklin County, also Centerville Baptist Church in Centerville.

He served 5 years in the U. S. Army during WW II. He was Major and served in England and Africa.

He had served as moderator of the Franklin County Baptist Association several times. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Bude.

He graduated from Mississippi College. Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, and received a doctorate from New Orleans Seminary.

He is survived by his wife, Thelma, and one daughter, Mrs. Judy Stewart, who lives in Fort Lewis, Wash.



Dedication at Gum Grove

The dedication of a new educational building will be a feature of homecoming services April 24 at Gum Grove Baptist Church, Brookhaven. The pastor, Hershel Clanton, will be the speaker for the morning service; and Leonard Smith will speak at special afternoon services. Lunch will be served at the church following the morning service. This is the second building the church has completed in the past 5 1/2 years under the leadership of the present pastor. An auditorium was built in 1972.

Homecomings

Cary Baptist Church in Sharkey - Issaquena Association will have its first homecoming service May 1. The service will begin at 9:45 a.m. and will include singing by various groups, congregational singing, and preaching, according to Pastor W. E. Wichman. Lunch will be served at the church.

Homecoming Day will be observed April 24, at Shady Grove Baptist Church in Copiah County. Guest speaker for morning worship service will be H. Glen Schilling, a former pastor who is now pastor of Central Baptist Church, Brookhaven. Lunch will be served at church following morning worship service. On this day a special offering will be received for maintenance of Shady Grove Cemetery. Victor Johnson is pastor.

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Around The World

Taiwan

By David R. Grant
Broadmoor Baptist Church

(Last of a Series)

The last stop of our trip in visiting missionaries was Taiwan. The Jerry Simons who had lived in our missionary home while on furlough, live in Taichung. This was our destination for that country. We also knew personally Mary Sampson whose home is in Taichung, and the Harry Raleys who live in Taipei.

Our plane landed at Taipei. Jerry had come from Taichung by train to meet us. He had arranged with Mrs. Corella Ricketson to meet us and show us over the area. We visited the seminary, encampment grounds, some churches, the Baptist Building, and other areas of the city.

One thing that was of particular interest to me was the seminary. When I was there in 1970, I observed an old, broken down organ. It is my understanding that it was supposed to have been used for teaching and worship in the chapel. However, it had been out of operation for those six years and I don't know how much longer.

Adequate funds were not available to repair it so it was just there. After inquiring about the approximate cost to repair it, it was determined that about \$1,000 was needed. I am happy to say that Broadmoor Baptist Church has that money on deposit awaiting further information from Dr. Hunker, the president.

The Ricketsons, Jerry Simon, David, and I had a meal together in the evening; and it was truly an unusual experience. We spent the night at the Raleys' home, even though Harry and his wife were not there. The two boys were at home, one of whom is at Mississippi College now. He is the younger of the two and is named David. The older one is at Southern Methodist University. I had been the pastor of Mrs. Raley's parents at Drew.

The next morning, Jerry, David, and I caught the train to Taichung, where we visited with the entire Simon family and Mary Sampson. Mary is another missionary I have known for a long time. They—the Simons and Mary—gave us a very wonderful tour of the city, showing us some churches and other sites of interest.

One was the English-speaking church of which Jerry is pastor. The

military personnel have gone now, and the church is somewhat weaker than it was earlier. Another church was one that Mary Sampson helped start directly across the street from her home. She works with students at the university.

One personal thing of interest is an item we purchased while there at Taichung. For years, I had wanted an oriental screen for a divider between our living and dining rooms. We found a man that agreed to make it within our price range, and we are looking forward to having it in the near future.

Before I finish writing about Taichung, I want to share something with my readers about the Simons. Their son, Barry, is having a great deal of difficulty with his eyes. Therefore, they are having to return to the states. At the time of this writing, their future is somewhat uncertain. Mrs. Simon (Carol) and the children will arrive here in Mississippi in June. Jerry will come later.

The home our church furnishes for missionaries on furlough is already reserved, so Broadmoor Baptist Church has agreed to furnish them a home and pay the rent from July until December of 1977. This is a real privilege for us to do a thing like that for such a fine family. Barry will probably enroll in the Mississippi School for the Blind.

David and I rode the train from Taichung back to Taipei without Jerry's help. The Ricketsons met us at the station, and we all had a delightful lunch together.

We caught the plane in the afternoon to Okinawa and on to Guam. One of those famous Taiwan baseball teams was on the flight with us to Okinawa. We only landed at Okinawa and Guam and then on to Honolulu, Hawaii. We went through customs there and spent one night. We slept at my long-time friends' home, the Curtis Askews, even though they were not there. We also had fellowship with a fine family we had met previously on the island.

The next day we took a non-stop flight from Honolulu to Dallas and on home. My life has been made richer by having made such a delightful trip. I feel that I understand mission work much better and hope I can give better support in every way.

I want to thank Broadmoor Baptist Church for making such a trip possible and the staff of *The Baptist Record* for letting me share it with you.

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

"Touching my World" will be the theme of the student conference at Gloria August 13-19 and at Ridgecrest August 20-26. Both student weeks will begin a year-long emphasis on internationals.

One night several years ago I was a guest at a WMU meeting of First Church, Clinton. The women had a list of internationals—students and others—living in the Jackson and Clinton area. We decided to seek these out and tell them how glad we were they had chosen to live in our state. My choice of the name, Raviwan Thumchai of Bangkok, Thailand, meant the beginning of one of the most delightful friendships I have known.

She has often been a guest at my house and I have often been a guest at hers. Warm-hearted and generous, Dr. Thumchai is always bringing me beautiful gifts, such as a Thai silk scarf or a silver necklace from Bangkok. She is an expert cook, and it is sheer pleasure to sample her exotic Thai foods.

She came to the United States after being awarded a Peace Foundation Scholarship, and earned her doctorate in mathematics at a university in Colorado. She followed that with further study at Berkeley and night classes in math at Mississippi College. She is now professor of mathematics at Jackson State University.

A couple of years ago her lovely young daughters, Dorasa and Rosama, came to Mississippi, too, and enrolled at Mississippi Baptist High School in Jackson. They have tried to teach me some Thai words, but I rather ashamedly admit that I do not learn their language as fast as they learned mine. W. D. has given the girls a couple of fishing lessons.

Before I met Thumchai I knew little about Thailand. I had seen "The King and I" about Anna and the King of Siam, and knew that Thailand was formerly called Siam. I had heard of Siamese twins and Siamese cats! But since I have known Thumchai and her daughters and have met many of their Thai friends, I have become more and more interested in finding out all I can about the "Land of Smiles."

On April 21 I attended a special program at Holiday Inn, Medical Center. Thais in Mississippi, including Thai students from Mississippi College, Mississippi State University, Mississippi Baptist High School, and Jackson State University, presented "An Evening in Thailand."

Dr. Thumchai was director of the program, assisted by Somprasong Soncharoen, M.D., and Dusit Jitaroonta, president of the Thai Alliance at Mississippi State. She an-

nounced that the purpose of the "Evening" was to promote good understanding between nations.

Mrs. Nannie McLemore of Clinton, wife of the late Dr. R. A. McLemore, former president of Mississippi College, was one of the guest speakers, telling of her travel experiences in Thailand. Dr. Cleopatra Thompson of the Jackson State faculty also told of her visit to that country.

Students from Mississippi State sang Thai songs and played unusual Thai musical instruments. Two young men gave a brief demonstration of Thai boxing which makes extensive use of feet and elbows. Other groups demonstrated the classical folk dances of Thailand, which emphasize the graceful movements of fingers and hands. In one very beautiful selection, the girls all carried lighted candles. Among the talented performers were Thumchai's daughters, Rosama and Dorasa Thumchai, and her sister, Quanta Mekmok.

Others on program had such musical names as Vanida Srimuang, Suparp Harnkantawantana, Kitti Nivatvongs, Umara Varothai, Pensri Chadatanathiti.

One feature of the program was that of paying homage to the teachers in the audience. The Thai custom of expression of gratitude to teachers is one we might do well to follow. They knelt before the teachers and presented them with bouquets of flowers.

Dr. Robert Smith, dean of the School of Liberal Studies at Jackson State, announced that similar evenings may be held in future, with other nations in the spotlight.

My friendship with Thumchai has reminded me afresh that no matter how different the custom or the appearances of people around the world, we all have the same basic needs, the same joys and sorrows, the same longings. The Same Creator made us all.

Last summer I had an opportunity during the Bicentennial year to show Thumchai something of my country when she and I and her daughters drove to Virginia, Washington, D. C., New England, and Niagara Falls.

She has shared with me something of her beliefs as a Buddhist. And I have tried to express to her what it means to me to be a Christian.

I am grateful to her for the excellent presentation of "An Evening in Thailand" and for the time and attention she has given to nurturing our friendship.

If there is an international who lives in your community, I hope you won't miss the chance to become acquainted. It could be the start of a joyous friendship.

Revival Dates

First Church, Yazoo City: April 24-27; Dr. Lewis A. Drummond, Billy Graham Chair of Evangelism, Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky., guest evangelist; Richard Smith, full-time music evangelist from New Albany, guest musician; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Coffee, donuts and hot chocolate served after 7 a.m. services; James F. Yates, pastor.

Easthaven Church, Brookhaven (Lincoln): April 24-27; Bill Causey, evangelist; Randy Grim, music director; services 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Robert M. Harvey, pastor.

Calvary Church, Booneville: April 24-29; Wayne Marshall, evangelist; Dan Haygood, music director; Charles Farmer, pastor.

North McComb Church (Pike): April 24-29; Joe H. Ratcliff, evangelist and pastor; Darryl Petry, minister of music of Navilla Church, music evangelist; Sunday services 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services 7 p.m.; ice cream fellowship Friday evening.

New Pleasantdale Church, Philadelphia: revival at Neshoba County Fair Grounds, May 2-7; Doyle Scitiz, pastor, preaching; featured singers will be: Monday night — The Ridgways; Tuesday night — The Ridgways; Wednesday night — Pleasantdale Singers; Thursday night — Sandtown Christians; Friday night — Christians from Houston; Saturday night — Sandtown Christians; starting time 7:30 p.m. This is a county wide event.

Westview Church, Jackson: April 24-29; Gene Henderson, evangelist, pastor of Fairview Church, Columbus; David Raddin, singer, minister of music, Westview; Sunday services 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday at 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m.; C. H. Locklin, pastor.

East Pleasant Grove Church, Quitman: April 22-24; Calvin Lasley, pastor, Calvary Church, Andalusia, Ala., evangelist; Ralph McCarra, East Pleasant Grove Church, music director; Martha Flowers, pianist; Revival services 7 p.m. and 11:00 on Sunday morning, James K. Burke, pastor.

Cary Church: April 25-29; Dolton Haggan, missionary to the Choctaw Indians, Philadelphia, evangelist; Wesley Keen, student at Mississippi Delta Junior College, music evangelist; services 7 p.m.; W. E. Wichman, pastor.

First Church, Bennedale: May 1-5; James Hoven, evangelist; Thomas Brown, music evangelist; services 7:00 p.m.; W. A. McWilliams, pastor. Sunday will be "Old Fashion" Day with dinner on the grounds.

Cedar Bluff Church, (Clay): April 17-22; Ray Hill, pastor of Mt. Zion, Columbus, evangelist; Harold Wilcox, minister of music; services 7:30 p.m.; Donald Berry, pastor.

Bunkley Church, Meadville: April 24-29; Vee Hoyle, evangelist; Henry and Francis Hackett of Arkansas, music evangelist and pianist; services 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 11:00 a.m.; Newton Smith, pastor.

Calvary Church, Newton: April 24-29; 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Curtis Guess, pastor, Chunky Church, evangelist; Mrs. L. G. Kee and Mr. Van Mitchell, in charge of music; Henry Adams, pastor.

Romanians Arrest Pastor Protesting For Human Rights

WASHINGTON (BP) — Josif Ton, a Romanian Baptist pastor, was arrested April 3 during a church service in his country because the outspoken minister distributed a document protesting violations of human rights in Romania, according to reports received here.

The reports, received by the Baptist World Alliance here, indicate that Ton, an Oxford University-educated pastor of a church in Ploesti, was arrested along with two other unidentified persons. The arrest is believed to have occurred in Bucharest.

A BWA spokesman said the arrest reportedly resulted not because Ton wrote the document but that he distributed it outside of Romania.

Ed Plowman, news editor of Christianity Today, who just returned to the United States from a trip through Romania following devastating earthquakes there, said Ton gave him a copy of the document, written in Romanian.

Plowman said he will soon have a complete translation but that verbal translations given him by Ton and another Romanian reveal that Ton does not blame Romania's central authorities for the violations but called for ceasing of violations on the local level.

Sunday School Lesson: International For April 24

Jesus Commissions His Followers

By Wm. J. Fallis
Lake 24-36-52

On December 5 we began a twenty-one session study of the life and ministry of Jesus as told in the Gospels of Mark and Luke. Although we have not studied every chapter and verse, we have examined the crucial events in the career of Jesus and his major teachings. Last year we used Matthew's Gospel to study the

life of Christ, and in 1979-80 we will use the Gospel of John. The person of Jesus is the heart of our faith; unless we are committed to him and his way of life, we cannot be Christians. Most of us need to read again and again what he said and did to counteract the influence of his rivals and to prevent our being satisfied with some pale reflection of the real Jesus. These five months should have sharpened your understanding of Jesus and what he

wants you to do for him. This lesson shows that serving Jesus is required of believers.

The Lesson Explained
Understanding The Scriptures
(vv. 44-45)

Even while the disciples of Emmaus were telling their story to the eleven in Jerusalem, Jesus was suddenly standing among them. Perhaps because the doors were closed, the disciples thought he was a spirit, and they were terrified. But Jesus reassured them, showing his hands and feet and inviting them to touch him. When they were still unconvinced, alternating between joy and wonder, Jesus ate a piece of fish while they watched. Only a person with a body could do that!

Then he began to teach those men as he had done on the Emmaus road. They were not new ideas; he had told them before. But the crucifixion and resurrection had given them a new perspective. He was not the messiah that many people wanted to win a liberating war against Rome. He was part of God's promise to Abraham. He was the ultimate focus of the Hebrews

to whom God gave his law through Moses. He was the prophets' theme of both justice and forgiveness. He was the recurrent melody of Psalms, both somber and joyous. Perhaps far into the night Jesus showed how the three major parts of the Hebrew Scriptures pointed to him and what had happened to him. They were more than ancient and revered writings; they were a lively testimony to God's purpose being fulfilled in Christ.

Witnesses To All Nations
(vv. 46-49)

Jesus wanted the disciples to see beyond the traditional and nationalistic interpretation of the Scriptures. He was indeed a Jew, but God's plan for his people had been in behalf of all nations, and Jesus was the culmination of that intention. He taught earnestly that night to help his disciples outgrow their provincialism and stretch their horizons toward God's purpose.

As he had told the Emmaus disciples (vv. 26-27), Jesus told the whole group that the Messiah's suffering must precede his glory. Without dying, he could not triumph over sin and death. So they

should not be ashamed of his crucifixion but preach it along with the resurrection. All nations should hear of God's offer of forgiveness through Christ, and Jesus charged his disciples to be "witnesses of these things." He expected them to begin their work in Jerusalem, but he also expected them to obey him in reaching all nations. As they would wait in Jerusalem, "power from on high" would prepare them for the task.

A Joyful Separation
(vv. 50-53)

When Jesus was crucified, his disciples were crushed and distraught, but now look at them. This is about forty days later, and Jesus led them out of the city to Bethany. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken into heaven. But the disciples were not sad; they worshiped and rejoiced. The ascension was a fitting climax for their Master's earthly ministry. They responded by praising God in the Temple "continually." They had not given up their Jewish faith. Instead, they must have felt it had been vindicated in this new evidence at work in Jesus Christ.

more one exposes himself to the light, the more he sees himself as a sinner. "The grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant." The grace of God was more powerful than the sin. The grace of God produced in the saved individual two qualities of Christian character: faith and love as one comes to know and experience Christ. "In Christ Jesus," the qualities of faith and love develop. The gospel in a nutshell is found in I Tim. 1:15: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Paul said that this was a faithful saying which meant it was familiar to all because Jesus had said the same thing about himself and because many had experienced it.

Paul broke into a glorious song of praise when he thought of the grace that the Lord had bestowed upon him. "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen." The words may actually be those of a formulated doxology in use by the churches of Paul's day. The words imply both God's eternal existence and his universality. In ascribing these attributes to God, the doxology recognizes what God already possesses.

If Christian doctrine is to be meaningful it must be rooted and renewed in experience. Experience is the outgrowth of doctrine and it is true that

Devotional

What Are You Waiting For?

By John Forsman, Pastor, Wade Church
Acts 1:11

"Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heavens?" A lovely day had come. The sky was clear, the mood was festive and cheerful. Jesus was alive and had been with his followers for forty days. This little band of believers had spent these past days learning of and rejoicing in the truth of the resurrection. With their faith now strengthened, their minds now enlightened, and their hearts now rejoicing, they could face the world with courage. After all, their leaders, yes their Lord, had defeated the greatest obstacle of all. Death had been swallowed up in victory.

Jesus was speaking to them now. He was giving them some important instructions. They were to wait at Jerusalem until they received God's promised gift of the Holy Spirit. When they received this gift they would also receive power which would enable them to share the wonderful message of the resurrection. Because Jesus was telling them of these things they could believe them. After all, wasn't He alive from the grave? He then told them of the specific places where they were to share these truths. To Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth, they were being sent as personal messengers.

But now something strange was happening. Jesus was rising into the heavens. He was disappearing into a cloud and they were suddenly alone again. They stood there looking helplessly at the sky. The question, what did all this mean, must have flooded their wondering minds. They needed help.

Do you sometimes find yourself in this situation? You think you are on top of it all. Everything is ordered and precise and suddenly you are faced with the unexpected. Let me offer you hope. The disciples were facing yet another crisis but God had already made provision to supply their need. He immediately set their minds at ease. His son had just finished giving them their marching orders and now His angels would bring them back to reality with a question, "What are you waiting for?" and with the promise their Lord would return again. They needed help and God supplied it.

Today we are faced with the same wonderful truths and the same binding directions. God is still asking, "Why stand ye gazing up into heaven?" So, what are you waiting for?

Warren Baptists Express Disapproval Of Stores' Opening On Sunday

Warren County Association has adopted a resolution in opposition to the opening of stores on Sunday:

"Sunday is becoming more and more a regular business day in our city and county, and it is our belief that this is detrimental to our family-life, church-life and community atmosphere."

doctrine is the interpretation of experience. Unless the church faithfully teaches the great solid realities of the Christian faith, there is no way that it can continue to be the kind of spiritual institution and influence the Lord intends it to be.

Too many of our churches have become too interested in results without building a faithful foundation. Christ came to save sinners from sin but he also wanted them to grow in understanding and in application. The idea that doctrine is dry and stuffy is wrong. Christian doctrine is important and necessary. The gospel that is real and a basic part of life has adapted doctrine to experience.

"We, the Warren County Baptist Association, in spring session March 27, 1977, call upon the businesses of our city and county to make it possible for their employees and themselves to have this day as a day with their families and churches."

"We call upon the members of our churches to refrain from using this day as a day of business transaction, in order that it might be a day of rest and worship."

A letter was written to be sent from the association to businesses that open on Sunday. In part, it stated:

"We, the Warren County Baptists, wanted you to know how we feel about your opening on Sunday."

"Many of us have not been thinking and have helped give your store a reason for opening on Sunday. However, we are calling on our people (9,265) and the other church people of Warren County to refrain from doing business on Sunday. We truly believe they will."

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work for April 24

True To The Gospel

Bill Duncan, First, Long Beach
II Timothy 1:3-20

The doctrines of the church are the bone structure of the body. How important are the doctrines? Through the years Baptists have historically been concerned that we have doctrinal soundness. We hold that the Bible is the basic concept of faith and practice. At the core of Christian faith stand certain facts. These facts become the roots of a good foundation of life-style. Accepting these facts and their interpretation keeps people in touch with reality and with God.

The Biblical concept of doctrines is the total Christian message — the facts of the gospel, the interpretation of those facts, and the application to life. It is Paul's purpose to encourage young Timothy to proclaim the pure gospel. Right belief will issue in right conduct. To Paul what a person believes does make a difference.

What is the secret of survival in the

storm of life? Down on the coast, we have some giant oak trees that have survived some powerful hurricanes. The strength of the oak is its root system. The personal foundations are determined by an individual's response and acceptance of truth.

Error Must Be Recognized

Timothy was requested to stay in Ephesus to protect the church from being infiltrated by false teachers. He is in charge of the defense. This was a difficult assignment. He needed special strength.

Teachers arose who wanted to compromise the demands of the gospel by making it acceptable to the audiences. These may have wanted to bring into Christianity pagan ideas and practices. The false teachers may have wanted to suggest Greek gnosticism and Jewish speculations to the church.

The most effective deterrent to false belief is the strong presentation of the truth. For those who do not have a strong understanding of the law or ap-

plication of truth, false teachers will mix them up and lead them astray. Timothy and the modern church need to restrain certain persons from teaching unsound doctrine. The best method is by teaching the truth.

Experience Is Truth's Foundation

Paul kept returning to his own experience of grace as the foundation of understanding of the gospel. Paul thought of himself as the chief of sinners. The gospel is the power that transforms sinners, turns them in a new direction and makes witnesses out of them. The truth had been experienced, and he knew the good it could do. Therefore he wanted to prevent others from destroying or distracting the truth which was the means of recovery from sin.

Why would Paul call himself the chief of sinners? He had tried to destroy the gospel when he persecuted the church. He also knew that the more he knew of God's grace, love and truth, the more he saw himself as unfit. The